

**AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.111**  
U.S. Application No. 10/521,236

**Q82579**

**AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS**

**Please replace Figures 1, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 13, and 14 with the attached, replacement  
Figures**

Attachment: Five (5) Replacement Sheets

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-13 are all the claims currently pending in this Application.

The Examiner has acknowledged Applicants' claim to foreign priority and the receipt of the certified copy of the priority document. The Examiner has also returned a signed and initialed copy of the PTO-SB-08 submitted with the IDS of January 14, 2005.

**Amendments**

With this Amendment, Applicants amend claims 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, and 12. The specification and figures are also amended. Applicants note that these amendments are supported in the originally-filed application by at least the following portions: page 10, lines 5-13; page 10, line 22 to page 11, line 7; and page 14, line 7 to page 15, line 4.

Entry of these amendments is respectfully requested.

**Allowable Claims**

The Examiner indicates that claims 1-8 are allowed. Applicants submit that these claims remain allowable for at least those reasons as previously presented by the Examiner.

**Claims Rejection: §112, second paragraph**

Claims 9-13 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 1.112, second paragraph, as allegedly incomplete for omitting elements which are necessary to perform certain steps as recited in claims 1 and 2. Among other amendments, Applicants amend claims 9 and 12 to remove their dependence on one of claims 1 and 2. For at least this reason, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claims 9-13 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph be reconsidered and withdrawn.

**Claims Rejection: §103(a)**

Claims 9-13 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over Takeshi (JP 2002-048680) in view of Holland (U.S. Patent 6,504,604) and Leblanc (U.S. Patent 6,724,469). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection of these claims.

None of the cited reference discloses an analyzer that calculates a fluctuation of the light intensity of the linearly polarized light separated from the backscattered light and detected by the photodetector, and analyzes polarization mode dispersion in the optical fiber based on the calculated fluctuation value, as recited in amended claim 9. Therefore, Applicants submit that claim 9 is patentable over the cited combination of references and that claims 10 and 11 are patentable at least by virtue of their dependence on claim 9.

Applicants submit that claim 12 is also patentable for reasons similar to those presented above with respect to claim 9, and that claim 13 is patentable at least by virtue of its dependence on claim 12.

Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the §103(a) rejection of claims 9-13 be reconsidered and withdrawn.

**Conclusion**

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

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The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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**23373**

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